<u>Leasing Farmland</u> – Upcoming Meetings, Resources, and Workshops for Landowners and Farmers

<u>Informational meetings</u>: For Landowners And Farmers Interested in Leasing

The SADC and NOFA-NJ will be hosting a series of informational meetings around the state to introduce landowners to the basics about leasing and making their land available for agriculture. Farmers seeking land are also invited to attend – an excellent opportunity to meet a potential lease partner! The program will be the same at each location, so pick the meeting that best fits your schedule.

- Learn about leasing strategies and considerations for your land
- Hear from farmer speakers on the leasing needs and perspectives of farmers, and recommendations for landowners to consider
- Network with and hear from other landowners on their leasing experiences and interests

Northern NJ

March 7, 2013 7:00-8:30pm Warren County Cooperative Extension 165 County Rd. 519 South Belvidere, NJ 07823-1949

Central NJ

March 14, 2013 7:00 – 8:30pm Monmouth County Cooperative Extension 4000 Kozloski Road Freehold, NJ 07728-5033

Southern NJ

March 12, 2013 7:00 – 8:30pm Atlantic County Cooperative Extension 6260 Old Harding Highway Mays Landing, NJ 08330-1533



Landowner Workshop:

Making Your Land Available for Farming: Leasing 101

"I own a farm and want to see it actively farmed, but where do I start? What are the first steps, and what do I need to know?" The purpose of this educational course is to help landowners answer these questions and to introduce some of the important things to do and consider when you are thinking of making your land available for farming. This includes identifying and clarifying your goals for the land. It also includes assessing what your property (the land and infrastructure) has to offer – and understanding what aspects of it would be attractive to farmers. What are farmers looking for in a property, and what do farmers want or need in a leasing situation to have a successful business? The farmer's point of view, short versus long-term leases, and the elements found in a typical lease will all be discussed, as will helpful agricultural organizations, leasing resources, and basic strategies for finding farmers.

- This workshop will be offered in May or June 2013.
- Check http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmlink/resources/ for more information about the course, including when it will be offered and other helpful leasing materials.

<u>Farmland Leasing Guidebook</u>: "Leasing Farmland in New Jersey: An Introductory Guide for Landowners and Farmers"

In New Jersey, landowners and farmers have the same questions when it comes to making their land available or seeking access to available land. What do I need to think about and consider? How long should the lease be? What provisions should it include? How much should the rental rate be? And what are the motivations and interests of the other party? The purpose of this guide is to help address these and other questions and to help landowners and farmers begin the process of creating agreements and relationships that work for them.

- The guidebook will include valuable information on these topics and about leasing land in NJ, gleaned from the SADC's conversations with landowners and farmers around the state and from researching other states' leasing guides. It will also include sample leases, profiles of landowners and farmers and their leases, and additional resources to help you get started.
- For copies, **available soon**, visit http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmlink/resources/ or contact the SADC at 609-984-2504.

These meetings, resources, and workshops are part of a USDA Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program project that the SADC and NOFA-NJ are collaborating on. The project applies to all types of farms - organic and traditional – and is supported by funds from the USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (NIFA #2011-49400-30739).